PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.	**10/623,051**	Confirmation No.: 3961
Applicant(s):	**GUNTHER MICHAEL, ET AL.**	
Filed:	**July 18, 2003**	
TC/A.U.	**1712**	
Examiner:	**Daniel S. Metzmaier**	
Title:	**HYDROPHOBIC SILICA**	
Docket No.:	**032301.0901**	
Customer No.:	**25461**	

DECLARATION

NOW COMES GÜNTHER MICHAEL, one of the applicants in the above-identified application and states as follows:

My CV is attached hereto.

The pyrogenica silicas that are produced in accordance with the invention in this patent application are built up of small round particles which form aggregates.

It is the aggregates which are responsible for the desired thickening action which is described in this application.

If the aggregates were to be milled in a ball mill such as shown in the references cited by the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, the structure of the silica aggregates would be destroyed and the thickening action would be severely reduced or entirely lost.

In accordance with the present invention, we have discovered that the use of a roller compactor or a belt filter press for compacting the silicas does not destroy the structure of the silica aggregates.

As a result of the process described in the present application involving the use of a roller compactor or a belt filter press, good dispersability, together with the required degree of compaction, is achieved.

I, GÜNTHER MICHAEL, hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

Date: _____

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Günther Michael

Günther Michael –Director, Application Technology Silicas & Pigments

Günther Michael, born in 1957, studied chemistry at the Universität Kaiserslautern. In his PhD work, his main interest was 'agostic' metal-organic Chromium-complexes – model systems for C-H-activation.
He joined Degussa in 1987 and worked as a senior manager in the Applied Technology Centre of AEROSIL®. He supported new products in new applications but handled also 'old' important applications like silicone rubber, coatings, polyester, toner, paper, sealants, adhesives, battery acids etc. Nearby he was quality super visor for AEROSIL® world-wide. In 2000 he joined Degussa's Projecthouse Nanomaterials and supported the new AdNano® products from the applied technology side. Beginning with 2003 in Degussa's Advanced Nanomaterials he was responsible Applied Technology Manager. Since 2006 he is the head of the AEROSIL® Coatings lab.